

Appln. No. 10/520,855
Amdt. Dated August 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 11, 2006

REMARKS

Status of the claims

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claim 4 has been canceled.

Discussion

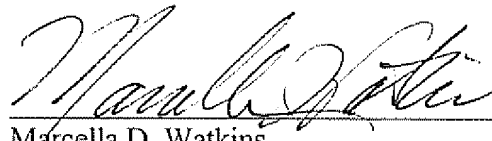
In an Office Action mailed on July 11, 2006, the Examiner restricted Applicant's claims as drawn to independent and distinct inventions. Specifically, the Examiner restricted the claims into two groups, namely Group I consisting of claims 1-3 and 5-17 and Group II consisting of claim 4. In response, Applicants hereby formally elect Group I without traverse.

Applicant has canceled non-elected claim 4 without prejudice and reserves the right to prosecute it and other claims in a later divisional application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, or otherwise feels it would be advantageous, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (713) 238-8043.

Respectfully submitted,



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